
From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Monday, May 15, 2017 12:26 PM
Subject: Public Health, Safety & Welfare Speaker Registration/Testimony
Attachments: 20170515122629_Testimony-CityCouncil-mobileuse.docx

Speaker Registration/Testimony

Name	Shannon Ball
Phone	8083495989
Email	shannonball@gmail.com
Meeting Date	05-23-2017
Council/PH Committee	PublicHealth
Agenda Item	Bill 6 (2017)
Your position on the matter	Oppose
Representing	Self
Organization	
Do you wish to speak at the hearing?	No
Written Testimony	See attached letter in opposition to this bill.
Testimony Attachment	20170515122629_Testimony-CityCouncil-mobileuse.docx
Accept Terms and Agreement	1

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Aloha members of our City Council,

I am writing to express my concern and opposition to this bill; there should be no regulation regarding a person using a mobile device while crossing the street. I oppose Bill 6 (2017). While I appreciate the intention, this is a significant governmental overreach and infringement on a person's basic civil liberty to be able to walk around our city, and our basic constitutional rights to enjoyment. Stop treating our citizens like we are babies.

I'll echo sentiments I've read in opposition – it is by law the responsibility of the driver to yield to pedestrians. This has already been increased to include at any time a pedestrian is in a cross walk, even if they are well beyond the range of the car. Overbearing but that is the law as it stands now. This unfairly impacts people who live in the denser urban corridor, and people who use their phones for work. What pedestrians do of their own free will should be the choice of the pedestrian, not the government.

There has been NO study or evidence presented linking mobile use by pedestrians, to a statistical increase in accidents. What has been stated in previous testimony is a completely arbitrary correlation. Reciting statistics is not evidence that this will have any measurable impact on public safety, nor justification for this type of legislative over-reach.

Here are other completely arbitrary correlations parallels to consider for pedestrian safety. How does the increased number of pedestrian accidents occur compare to...:

- To the increase in population? There are more people in downtown Honolulu. Should we limit the number of people crossing a street at any given time?
- To an increase in age? Should we limit the age of people crossing, especially if senior citizens are unable to cross before the light changes?
- To the time of day? More accidents occur at high noon because it's bright & hot, and also at night between 10pm-4am because citizens are intoxicated, so we should limit or severely crossing between those hours.
- To people eating? Should we limit people eating while walking?
- To talking to a friend while crossing? Some citizens are so wrapped up in conversation they are distracted and not paying attention to the cars around them.

These start to get ridiculous, but so is banning whether an otherwise law-abiding citizen has the right to use their phone or even hold it in their hands while simply walking.

While it is against better judgement to use mobile devices while in a crosswalk, it should not be penalized by law enforcement, nor by monetary penalty.

Please scrap this intrusive bill, provide more education to citizens about responsible electronics usage, and allow law enforcement to focus on the larger issues facing our city, such as increased thefts, upticks in violent drug offenses, compassionate treatment for the growing homeless populations, and corruption within the department's own ranks. All these deserve far more of your attention than how people cross the street.

Mahalo.